Director of Central Intelligence
Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates
List of Questions for Ambassador Bullitt

26 April 1948

IM-18

1. Attached is the list of quastions requested for Ambassador Bullitt.

THEODORE BABBITT Assistant Director Reports and Estimates

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- 1. Does the Generalissimo give much thought to the possibility of retirement from political life, and is there much prospect of his taking such a course in the near future?
- 2. What are the Generalissimo's views concerning the ability of the National Army (a) to improve its position or even to retain its foothold in Manchuria and (b) to improve its position in China north of the Lunghai Railway?
- 3. How effective does he believe the current US aid program will prove in restoring stability to his Government?
- 4. Does he have any confidence that the National Government could continue successfully resistance to the Communists if it were forced into South China? Does he now have any plan for withdrawal into South China as an anti-Communist base, and, if so, is T.V. Soong making progress in its development as such a base?
- 5. What is his attitude toward the proposed agrarian reforms (involving land redistribution in areas recovered from the Communists or threatened by the Communists), in view of the fact that such reforms, if carried out, risk alienating powerful landlord groups on whom he depends for support?
- 6. How widespread is defeatism among Nationalist officials? Would the Generalissimo, under any circumstances, be willing to attempt a negotiated peace with the Communists?
- 7. What approaches, if any, have Soviet representatives made to Chiang Kai-shek regarding mediation in the Civil War? How responsive has he been, or would he be, to such approaches?
- 8. What is his attitude toward Li Tsung-jen? Does he regard him as a rival who might effect his overthrow? Outside the ranks of the Communists, what other potentially powerful figures does he distrust and fear?

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